

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 03725 061639Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 3725

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EMIN, JM,

SUBJECT: BAUXITE: ALLEGATIONS OF REVERE PAYOFFS IN JAMAICA

REFERENCE: (A) STATE 204311 (B) KINGSTON 3461

1. DCM SEPTEMBER 3 DURING GENERAL DISCUSSIONS OF BAUXITE DEVELOPMENTS WITH DOUGLAS FLETCHER (JAMAICAN BAUXITE COMMISSION ATTORNEY AND FORMER JAMAICAN AMBASSADOR TO U.S.) HAD OPPORTUNITY MENTION ALLEGATIONS CITED REFTEL A. FLETCHER SAID HE WAS VERY AWARE IN GENERAL TERMS OF THE SIX MILLION DOLLAR "PAYOFF" FOR "EXPLORING RIGHTS" SINCE AT THAT TIME HE REPRESENTED REVERE HERE AS AN ATTORNEY. ACCORDING TO FLETCHER MOST OF THE SIX MILLION DOLLARS WENT TO A MR. WEISNER OR WEISTER (PHONETIC SPELLING, FLETCHER CANNOT RECALL PRECISELY SPELLING OR EXACT NAME). WEISNER, TO BEST OF FLETCHER'S RECOLLECTION, WAS A U.S. CITIZEN BUT MAY HAVE BEEN CANADIAN. FLETCHER ALSO RECALLS THAT THROUGHOUT THE VARIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH WEISNER FOR EXPLORATION RIGHTS THE THEN MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, ROBERT LIGHTBOURNE, WAS ALWAYS PRESENT. IT WAS MADE CLEAR TO REVERE THAT LATTER, TO DO BUSINESS IN JAMAICA, WOULD HAVE TO MAKE PAYMENT OF CONSIDERABLE MAGNITUDE AND TO WEISNER. FLETCHER COMMENTED THAT IT IS ACCEPTED WISDOM IN JAMAICA THAT MOST OF THE MONEY IN FACT ULTIMATELY WENT TO LIGHTBOURNE AND VARIOUS ASSOCIATES OF HIS.

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2. RE ALLEGATIONS CITED PARA 1 REFTEL B, FLETCHER SAID HE
HAD HEARD THE SAME STORIES BUT HAD NO MORE SPECIFICS THAN
THOSE CITED.
GERARD

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Message Attributes

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